

State of California
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

June 28, 2000, Wednesday 10:00 a.m.
City Council Chambers
City of La Quinta
78-495 Calle Tampico
La Quinta, CA 92253

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by Chair Michael Smith at 10:00 a.m. on June 28, 2000, in the City Council Chambers, City of La Quinta, California.

1. Roll Call

The following Board Members were present: Mary Ann E. Martin Andreas, Elvera Codekas, Don Cox, Gary Johnson, Michael Smith, Brenda Soulliere, and Nancy Wright.

2. Staff Present

Alex Alimohammadi, Jeff Allred, Adnan Al-Sarabi, Jose Angel, Summer Bundy, Ron Falkowski, Patricia Garcia, Orlando Gonzalez, Beatrice Griffey, Phil Gruenberg, Abdi Haile, Danny McClure, Robert Perdue, Judy Reed, Rex Sharp, Charles Springer, Joan Stormo, Kristie Taylor, Hilda Vasquez, Susan Wilson, Ben Zabinsky, Nadim Zeywar, and Maribel Rodriguez (Student Assistant)

3. Others Present

Mary Jane Forster, State Water Resource Control Board
Karen O'Haire, State Water Resource Control Board
Steve Bigley, Coachella Valley Water District
Leon Bowling, MCAGCC – Twentynine Palms
Don Coltrain, Common Wealth Energy
Nicole Duckett, Meaders Cleaners
A.P. Fisichelli, Metropolitan Water District
Milton Friend, Salton Sea Science Subcommittee
Lori Gualco, Palm Springs Landscape Co.
Randy Hines, City of El Centro
Tom Kirk, Salton Sea Authority
Brad Luckey, Imperial Irrigation District
Mark Magargee, Holquin, Fahan & Associates, Inc.
Scot Stormo, Earth Systems
Marian Wade, Palm Springs Landscape Co.
Steve Wade, Palm Springs Landscape Co.

4. Minutes of Meeting of May 10, 2000

MOTION: Mr. Cox moved, Ms. Wright seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the minutes be approved as submitted.

5. Uncontested Waste Discharge Requirements

NPDES Permits

00-020	Primary Power Management and Development Inc., Owner, Imperial Valley Resource Co. LLC, Operator, Discharge of Industrial Wastewater from a 17 Megawatt Biomass Waste Fueled Power Plant, South of Brawley – Imperial County
00-032	Coachella Sanitary District, Owner/Operator, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Coachella – Riverside County
00-040	City of Imperial, Owner/Operator, Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant, Imperial – Imperial County
00-051	Ormesa Geothermal, Facility Owner, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Land Owner, FPL Energy, Agent for Facility Owner, FPL Energy Operating Services, Inc., Operator, East Mesa Geothermal Projects, Plant East Mesa (PEM) Unit 1 – 30 MW (Gross) Geothermal Power Plant, Plant East Mesa (PEM) Unit 2 – 10 MW (Gross) Geothermal Power Plant, Cooling Tower Blowdown, South of Holtville – Imperial County
00-072	United States Trust Company of New York, Land/Facility Owner, Ogden Geothermal Operations, Inc., Operator, Heber Geothermal Company Power Plant, South of Heber – Imperial County
00-087	City of Brawley, Owner/Operator, Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant, Brawley – Imperial County

Waste Discharge Requirements

00-024	United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Owner/Lessor, County of San Bernardino, Waste System Division, Operator/Lessee, Twentynine Palms Sanitary Landfill, Class III Landfill, Twentynine Palms – San Bernardino County
00-046	United States Marine Corps Owner/Operator, Air Ground Combat Center, Class III Landfill, Twentynine Palms – San Bernardino County
00-075	George H. Field, Owner/Operator, Black Meadow Landing, Septic Tank/Oxidation Basin Disposal Facilities, Northwest of Parker Dam – San Bernardino County
00-082	Primary Power Management and Development Inc., Owner, Imperial Valley Resource Recovery Co. LLC, Operator, Discharge of Industrial Wastewater from a 17 Megawatt Biomass Waste Fueled Power Plant, South of Brawley – Imperial County
00-085	Ormesa Geothermal, Facility Owner, ESI Ormesa IH Resource, LLC, Well Field Owner, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Land Owner, FPL Energy, Agent for Facility Owner, FPL Energy Operating Services, Inc., Operator, East Mesa Geothermal Projects, Plant East Mesa (PEM) Unit 4 – 10 MW (Gross) Geothermal Binary Power Plant, Geothermal

Well Field and Containment Basins/Mud Pits, South of Holtville – Imperial County

00-090 Ormesa Geothermal II, Facility Owner, East Mesa Partners, Well Field Owner, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Land Owner, FPL Energy Operating Services, Inc., Operator, East Mesa Geothermal Projects, Plant East Mesa (PEM) Unit 3, 19.95 MW (Gross) Geothermal Binary Power Plant, Geothermal Wellfield and Containment Basins/Mud Pits, South of Holtville – Imperial County

00-089 Change of Name and/or Ownership of Facilities Having Waste Discharge Requirements

90-010 Havasu Palms – San Bernardino County

00-065 Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements

97-041 Coachella Valley Sanitary
Coachella – Riverside County

94-072 Del Ranch Power Plant
Calipatria – Imperial County

MOTION: Ms. Wright moved, Ms. Codekas seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Orders No. 00-020, 00-024, 00-032, 00-040, 00-046, 00-051, 00-065, 00-072, 00-075, 00-082, 00-085, 00-087, 00-089, and 00-090, including the errata, be adopted.

00-008 Coachella Valley Water District, Owner/Operator, Palm Desert Wastewater Reclamation Facility, Water Reclamation Plant No. 10, Palm Desert – Riverside County

MOTION: Ms. Wright moved, Mr. Cox seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. 00-008, including the errata, be adopted. (Ms. Codekas abstained from voting).

6. Presentation on the Salton Sea Restoration Efforts

Tom Kirk, Salton Sea Authority (SSA) gave a presentation on the history of the Salton Sea as well as the SSA's commitment to restoration. He also discussed various pilot projects that the SSA is currently supporting. Milt Friend, Salton Sea Science Subcommittee, made a presentation detailing the economic and environmental benefits of restoring the Salton Sea.

7. Overview of the Blythe UST Cleanup

Abdi Haile, Regional Board staff, spoke briefly about the UST Cleanup efforts in Blythe. Mark Magargee, consultant for the City of Blythe, gave a presentation pointing out the main areas of concern as well as lack of funding.

8. Presentation on Migden Law

Karen O'Haire, State Board, Office of the Chief Counsel, gave a brief explanation of the Migden Law, implemented on January 1, 2000. This law requires mandatory minimum penalties for certain NPDES violations.

9. Letter Sent by Rosemary Marlowe

The Chair read a letter from Mrs. Marlowe expressing gratitude for David Marlowe's Resolution and describing his dedication to his role as a Board Member.

10. Compliance with Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 97-145 Meaders Cleaners

Nicole Duckett, Esq., Lauri Gualco, Esq., and Robert Perdue, Regional Board staff, discussed progress towards compliance with Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 97-145.

11. Reportable Violations of the California Water Code

The Executive Officer mentioned that the report of noncompliance will henceforth report all violations, including those previously considered minor. Progressive enforcement will target those dischargers submitting chronically late or incomplete monitoring reports.

12. Informational Update on State Board Activities

Mary Jane Forster, Region 7's State Board liaison, introduced herself and discussed her role as a State Board Member and her interest in becoming more familiar with Region 7 water quality matters.

13. Regional Board Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer reported on an ACLC for \$15,000 issued to the City of El Centro for the discharge of improperly treated wastewater and other violations. The City of El Centro proposed a settlement which included a supplemental environmental project in the amount of \$10,800 to provide monitoring for the New River Wetlands Project administered by Desert Wildlife Unlimited, Inc. and payment of \$4,200 to the SWRCB Cleanup and Abatement Fund. The Executive Officer approved the proposed settlement. The City of El Centro waived a hearing on this matter.

14. Regional Board Staff Report

Summer Bundy, Regional Board staff, gave a briefing on the progress of the two TMDL's the Regional Board staff are currently developing, including stakeholder activities. Other items will be submitted in the Executive Officer's written report.

15. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that he attended a meeting, including City of Cathedral City and Desert Water Agency representatives, regarding possible solutions to ground water contamination related to the use of septic systems in the areas of the City lacking sewage infrastructure.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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